Waitng List for Telephones in OYT and Non-OYT Categories

2316. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applicants on the waiting list for telephones in OYT category and Non-OYT category in Madhya Pradesh as on the 1st November, 1991;

(b) the number of telephone connections likely to be released in the year 1992 in that State; and

(c) by when Government propose to provide telephone connections to all the applicants of Madhya Pradesh?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The total number of applicants on waiting list in OYT and categories as on 1-11-1991 in Madhya Pradesh is as follows:—

OYT	5775
Non-OYT	88208
Total	93983

(b) Telephone connections likely to be released during the financial year 1991-92 are 59000.

(c) The Department of Telecommunications has formulated draft 8th Five Year Telecom Plan and by the end of this Plan it is envisaged to:

—provide telephone connections practically on demand in rural and tribal areas; and

—waiting period not to exceed two years in larger systems.

Accordingly, expansion programmes have been drawn for providing telephone connections fulfilling the above objectives and the waiting list would be cleared progressively during the 8th Plan period.

Commission basis telephone booths to the Handicapped

2317. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have shelved the scheme of providing telephone booths on commission basis to the handicapped persons in major cities of the country;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in negative, the number of telephone booths sanctioned to handicapped persons throughout the country during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Hot line at Nandyal, Andhra Pradesh

2318. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a hot line communication system at Nandyal in Andhra Pradesh and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Telephone exchange in Bombay

2319. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the New Telephone Exchanges that are proposed to be commissioned in Bombay city during the next 12 months;

(b) what is the maximum waiting period for a new telephone connection in the general category; and

(c) what steps are being taken to reduce the waiting period of applicants in the general category in Bombay City?

TEH DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 1,35,000 Lines (Gross) are proposed to be commissioned in the next 12 months upto 31-12-92. Details are given in the statement enclosed *(See below)*.

(b) The maximum waiting period for new telephone connection in Ganeral category is 12 years 6 months in Bhyander of Bombay.

(c) The General Category waiting list registered upto 31st December, 1984 in all the exchanges is proposed to be cleared by 31st March, 1992. It is planned to reduce the waiting period to two years, progressively by March, 1997. This is however, subject to availability of adequate Equipment.

Statement

Exchanges to be commissioned before 31st March, 1992.

1.	City—4	18·0	K
2.	Cooperage—6	2·0	K
3.	Malabar Hill—3	5·0	K
4.	Mazgaon RLU	19·0	K
5.	Gamdevi RLU	5·0	K
6.	Prabhadevi—2	4·0	K
7.	Byculla—4	8·0	K
8.	Sion	3·0	K
9.	Versova RLU	4·0	K
10.	Kandivili—3	10·0	K
11.	Bhyander RLU	3·0	K
12.	Goregaon RLU	2·0	K
13.	Borivili RLU	7·0	K
14.	Gokuldham RLU	2·0	K
15.	Malad RLU	3·0	K
16.	Thane Cherai RLU	2·0	K
17.	Chatkopar—3	1·0	K
18.	Powai RLU	2·0	K
19.	Wagle Estate RLU	3·0	K
		103·0	K To scrap 42·9 K lines (Net 60·1K)

No. of Exchanges to be commissioned from 1-4-92 to 31-12-92.

1.	Thane RULU	4·0 K
2.	Vile Parle—3	3·0 K
3.	Marol—4	10·0 K
4.	Mankhurd—2	2·0 K
5.	Cooperage—6	2·0 K
6.	Malabar Hill—3	4·0 K
7.	Thane Cherai RLU	1·0 K
8.	Mumbra RLU	1·0 K
9.	Chembur RLU	3·0 K
10.	Panvel RLU	1·0 K
11.	Byculla RLU	1·0 K

This Commissioning programme depends on the timely receipt of equipment and printed circuit boards.

Working cost of post card/inland letter card

2320. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the working costs of Post Card and Inland Letter Card;

(b) how much loss Government incur annually on these two articles;

(c) whether there is any proposal to abolish Post Card; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

TEH DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):

(a) The working costs are as under :

Postcard	124.69 paise per unit
Inland letter card	140.84 paise per unit

(b) position of loss is as under :

Postcard	Rs. 79.09 crores per annum
Inland letter card	Rs. 57.36 crores per annum

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of reply to (c) above, question of details does not arise.

Grant of Autonomy to regional telecom circles

2321. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to grant autonomy to the Regional Telecom Circles as a part of the restructuring of the Telecom Sector; and

(b) if so, how it is likely to affect the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.?